

1/

Library



# WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT



## ANNUAL REPORT

of the

# Medical Officer of Health

for the

## YEAR 1963



P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Together with the Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

A. J. STROUD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b3024349x>

# WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT



## ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## Medical Officer of Health

for the

## YEAR 1963

---

P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.  
Together with the Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector  
A. J. STROUD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.





# CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Ambulance Service .. .. .	11
Area .. .. .	9
Atmospheric Pollutions and Smoke Abatement .. .. .	15, 42
Births .. .. .	10
Cerebro Spinal Fever .. .. .	22
Chief Public Health Inspector's Report .. .. .	37
Clearance Areas .. .. .	17
Clinics and Treatment Centres .. .. .	11
Deaths .. .. .	9
Diphtheria .. .. .	21
Disinfection .. .. .	15
Drainage and Sewage .. .. .	41
Dysentery .. .. .	22
Epidemic Diarrhœa .. .. .	22
Erysipelas .. .. .	22
Factories Acts .. .. .	25, 50
Food—Inspection and Supervision of Food Premises .. .. .	19, 43
Food Poisoning .. .. .	22
Hospital Accommodation .. .. .	11
Housing .. .. .	17, 39
Ice Cream .. .. .	19, 44
Infant Mortality .. .. .	10
Infectious Diseases .. .. .	21, 50
Influenza .. .. .	22
Laboratory Facilities .. .. .	11
Maternal Mortality .. .. .	10
Measles .. .. .	21
Meat and Food Inspection .. .. .	19, 47
Milk Supplies and Samples .. .. .	19, 43
Moveable Dwellings .. .. .	15, 41
National Assistance Act .. .. .	12
Neo-natal Mortality .. .. .	10
Nursing in the Home .. .. .	11
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	22
Pneumonia .. .. .	21
Poliomyelitis .. .. .	22
Population .. .. .	9
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act .. .. .	50
Public Cleansing .. .. .	15
Public Health Officers .. .. .	4
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	21
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	21
Sewage .. .. .	13
Slaughterhouses, etc. .. .. .	47
Smallpox .. .. .	21
Statistical Tables .. .. .	26—34
Swimming Baths .. .. .	15
Tuberculosis .. .. .	23
Verminous Disinfestation .. .. .	50
Water Supply .. .. .	13
Whooping Cough .. .. .	21

# Wellingborough Urban District Council

---

## *Members of the Public Health and General Purposes Committee :*

Messrs. R. J. ODELL (*Chairman*), A. E. DICKS (*Vice-Chairman*), C. B. BROWN, C. R. FORSTER, F. W. GRUNDY, W. H. KING, B. KIRBY, R. D. PATERSON, L. B. PENTELOW, G. T. RIDGE, H. C. L. WARWICK.

## *Public Health Officer of the Local Authority :*

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

## *also holds appointment of :*

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Higham Ferrers.

Medical Officer of Health, Rushden Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Irthlingborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Rural District Council.

School Medical Officer.

## *Secretary :*

MISS J. PEARSON.

## *Chief Public Health Inspector, Meat Inspector, etc. :*

A. J. STROUD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

## *Additional Public Health Inspectors :*

D. B. HOPKINS, M.A.P.H.I., Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

K. B. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.  
(Resigned 17.12.63)

J. HICK, M.A.P.H.I., Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.  
(Commenced 1.12.63)

# WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT

## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1963

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,738
Population 1951 (census)	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,222
Population 1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	31,410
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1931 (census)	..	..					5,396
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1963 (1.4.64)	..	..					10,312
Rateable Value 1963 (31.3.64)	..	..	..	..	..	£1,092,409	
Product of a penny rate (31.3.64)	..	..	..	..	..	£4,262	

LIVE BIRTHS.					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	506	262	244	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	49	25	24	
					555	287	268	17.66

STILLBIRTHS.					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	6	3	3	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	
					8	4	4	0.25

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
DEATHS (all causes)	..	..	..	..	407	207	200	12.95

### DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES— rate per 1,000.

#### Total (Live and Still) Births

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	..	1	—	1	
Other puerperal causes	..	—	—	—	1.77

### INFANT MORTALITY—rate for 1,000 live births.

Legitimate	..	..	..	..	7	6	1	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	1	—	1	
					8	6	2	14.41

Deaths from (a) Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	54
„ „ (b) Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
„ „ (c) Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
„ „ (d) Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	..	..	..	..	Nil



*Telephones :*  
*Office :* Wellingborough 2446  
*Home :* Rushden 2810

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
SWANSPOL,  
WELLINGBOROUGH.

*June, 1964.*

**To the Chairman and Members of the Wellingborough Urban District Council :**

MADAM CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Sixteenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District. The report is set out in accordance with my statutory duties as your Medical Officer of Health and has been compiled according to the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1/64.

Wellingborough is situated on the North bank of the River Nene and stands on elevated ground. The climate of Wellingborough is dry and it has many fine parks and open spaces not least amongst these is a very pleasant Zoo Park. It is also fortunate in possessing many fine buildings and some old churches built with the local red ironstone. From the principal statistics affecting the area it will be seen that it is a healthy town. The population figure 31,410 showed an increase of 360. The birth rate 17.66 showed a slight fall on the previous year when it was 18.55 per 1,000 population. The infant mortality rate 14.41 showed a considerable fall on the previous year when it was 26.04. The death rate 12.95 was lower than the previous year when it was 13.78 per 1,000 of population. Once again the chief cause of death was due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system. These deaths accounted for a rate of 7.48 per 1,000 population. Coronary disease or angina was the cause of 64 deaths which is one more than the previous year. The next greatest cause of death for the year was cancer when 54 deaths occurred. This showed a considerable fall on the number for the previous year which was 81. Lung cancer caused ten deaths compared with 26 in the previous year. There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis which was the same number as in the previous year.

A list of the Health services available for the area will be found in Section B. I also make reference to the welfare of old people and on this occasion give some information as to the Council's programme for housing of old people in the area. From this it will be seen that Wellingborough is mindful of the housing needs of the old folk and deserve great credit for the schemes that they have carried out.

The Sanitary Circumstances of the district is the subject dealt with in Section C and details of the town's water supply and sewage disposal works are given. It will be seen that much activity is taking place with reference to sewage disposal and that the sewage from Finedon is to be brought to Wellingborough. Increased sewers were also necessary to deal with the new development area. It is contemplated in the future to build a new sewage disposal works. The present system is land irrigation.

The Council's building programme and clearance of unfit properties will be found in Section D.



Section E gives information relating to the supervision of food and the results of samples taken during the year. Publicity campaigns on the subject of food hygiene are necessary from time to time as this subject must be constantly kept in the public's eye. If the standard is allowed to fall then the community is exposed to outbreaks of food poisoning or any of the excremental diseases.

The control and prevalence of infectious diseases is detailed in Section F. Vaccination and immunisation are our chief methods of dealing with certain serious diseases. In the interests of the community the numbers of persons protected against these diseases by immunisation or vaccination must be kept as high as possible. So far the situation in the district is satisfactory and it is hoped that by making use of this available protection it will remain so.

Statistical tables are given in Section H and these give valuable information.

In conclusion I should like to thank all persons who supplied information for this report and a list of acknowledgments is given. I should also like to thank Miss Pearson for her help in compiling this report and finally the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their continual encouragement and help throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

P. X. BERMINGHAM,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## **A C K N O W L E D G M E N T S**

I wish to express my thanks to the following for information supplied and contained in this report :

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL.

SURVEYOR AND ENGINEER.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

HOUSING MANAGER.

TREASURER.

## SECTION A.

### NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

AREA.—The Wellingborough Urban District covers an area of 8,737 acres. The density of population is 3.5 persons per acre. The number of dwellings occupied is 10,312. There are 361 shops, 184 houses with shops, 74 offices and 41 public houses. The housing factor is 3.04 persons per house.

POPULATION.—The Registrar General in his returns for 1963 gives the mid-year population as 31,410. This is an increase of 360 on the previous year. The increase in population in 1962 was 380. The natural increase for the year, i.e. births over deaths was 148.

DEATHS.—There were 407 deaths during the year which gives a death rate of 12.95 per 1,000 of population. This shows a fall on the previous year when the death rate was 13.78. The death rate for England and Wales for 1963 was 12.2. A classification of the causes of death is given in Table No. 1, Section H. The greatest cause of death was diseases of the heart and circulatory system. These deaths numbered 235 which is 9 more than the previous year and the death rate per thousand of population from this cause was 7.48. Coronary disease or angina was the cause of 64 deaths which is one more than the previous year. Thirteen of these deaths were under 65 years and one was in the age group 35–45 years. Cancer was the next greatest cause of death and the figure for 1963 was 54. This showed a considerable fall on the number for the previous year which was 81. The death rate per 1,000 of population for cancer was 1.71. There were 10 deaths from cancer of the lung or bronchus compared with 26 in the previous year. The following table shows the number of deaths from cancer in Wellingborough over the last eleven years and shows separately the number of deaths from lung cancer :

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Cancer deaths	58	56	45	62	68	62	65
Neoplasm lung or bronchus	11	7 (1 fem.)	4 (1 fem.)	6 (1 fem.)	14 (1 fem.)	14 (2 fem.)	5 (0 fem.)
	1960	1961	1962	1963			
Cancer deaths	60	70	81	54			
Neoplasm lung or bronchus	14 (1 fem.)	15 (2 fem.)	26 (1 fem.)	10 (1 fem.)			

It is interesting to note the fall in figures and the corresponding fall in lung cancer deaths. The report of the Royal College of Physicians on the relationship of cigarette smoking and lung cancer must be constantly borne in mind and on all possible occasions propaganda should be made use of to prevent the young from taking up smoking and the heavy smoker to cut down.

There were 50 deaths from Respiratory causes which is 13 more than the previous year. This gives a death rate of 1.59 per 1,000 of population. There was one death from Pulmonary tuberculosis which is the same number as in the previous year. The death rate per 1,000 of population was 0.03.



**BIRTHS.**—There were 555 births which is 21 less than the previous year. The birth rate was 17.66 per 1,000 of population compared with 18.55 in the previous year. The birth rate for England and Wales for 1963 was 18.2.

**ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.**—There were 49 illegitimate births which is 9 less than the previous year. This gives a rate of 88.28 per 1,000 live births compared with a rate of 100.69 for the previous year.

**STILLBIRTHS.**—There were eight stillbirths which is the same number as the previous year. The rate for the two years was the same 0.25 per 1,000 of population.

**MATERNAL MORTALITY.**—There was one death recorded which gives a rate of 1.77 per 1,000 live and still births. There were no deaths in the previous year.

**INFANT MORTALITY.**—There were eight infant deaths compared with 15 in the previous year. The infant mortality rate was 14.41 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the previous year was 26.04. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales for 1963 was 20.9. The following table shows the infant mortality rate for Wellingborough over a number of years :

1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	War Years		1946	1947	1948	1949
65	64.3	38.8	22.6	46.6			28.16	35.99	29.64	32.89
1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
35.62	29.05	23.04	17.5	23.47	12.43	21.22	19.48	14.49	32.58	18.34
1961	1962	1963								
17.17	26.04	14.41								

**NEONATAL MORTALITY.**—This is a sub-division of the infant mortality rate and concerns infant deaths within 28 days of independent existence. Five of the infant deaths occurred in this period and so the death rate for the year was 9.00 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the previous year was 22.56.

There is a further sub-division of the infant mortality rate and this deals with deaths under one week of age. Five deaths were in this period and so the rate is the same as the neonatal mortality rate 9.00 per 1,000 live births. Over the years the number of infants dying in their first year of life has been reduced very considerably. This has been brought about by preventive measures, higher standard of living and the control of infectious diseases. The same success has not been achieved amongst neonatal and perinatal deaths and these figures and rates remain to a certain extent, unchanged over the years. The reason for this is that the cause is often contracted before birth. Better antenatal care and protection of the mother against virus diseases will assist in bringing down these figures.

It is interesting to note the age groups in which deaths occurred and which are as follows :

<i>Under 4 weeks</i>	<i>4 weeks and under 1 year</i>	<i>1—</i>	<i>5—</i>	<i>15—</i>	<i>25—</i>	<i>35—</i>
5	3	2	—	1	3	7
	<i>45—</i>	<i>55—</i>	<i>65—</i>	<i>75 years and over</i>		
	18	46	110	212		

It is my opinion that the present trend towards deaths occurring in younger age groups than previously and it will be interesting to watch this in future.



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

**LABORATORY SERVICE.**—The area is served by two laboratories, one the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton and the second the laboratory at Kettering General Hospital with a branch at the Park Hospital, Wellingborough. Water, milk, bottle and churn rinses, ice-cream samples are sent to the Northampton Laboratory. Both the Northampton and Kettering laboratories assist in the examination of specimens in connection with the control of infectious diseases.

**AMBULANCE SERVICE, HOME NURSING AND HOME HELP SERVICE.**—These services come under the County Council. The Ambulance has its Headquarters at Irthlingborough Road which is conveniently situated for Wellingborough's new industrial sites. In addition to the regular ambulance service at this station there are also fast ambulances used for emergencies. This is very useful in case of accidents and such cases can be taken to one of the General Hospitals in a very short space of time. Accidents of a severe nature have to be treated at a General Hospital where all the necessary facilities are available. Home Nursing and Home Help Service provide a very valuable service to the community and is one that should not be overlooked or taken for granted. The District Nurses' Office is in Oxford Street Clinic and the Home Help Organiser for Wellingborough works from here.

**HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION AND OUT-PATIENT CLINICS.**—The Oxford Regional Hospital Board are responsible for these services which are as follows :

*General Hospitals*—Northampton and Kettering.

*Gynæcological and Children*—Wellingborough Hospital.

*Acute Medical Cases, Skins & Children*—Highfield Hospital, Wellingborough.

*Chronic Sick, the Aged and Persons in Need of Care and Attention*—Park Hospital, Wellingborough, St. Mary's Hospital, Kettering.

*Maternity*—Park Hospital, Wellingborough.

*Tuberculosis*—Rushden House Sanatorium.

*Out-Patient facilities* are available at the two General Hospitals and also at the Rushden Memorial Hospital, The Hayway, Rushden.

*Psychiatric Out-Patient* every Thursday afternoon, Rock Street Clinic, 2-15 to 5-15 p.m.

*Infectious Diseases*—Harborough Road Hospital, Northampton.

*Orthopædic*—Orthopædic Rock Street Clinic, Wednesday afternoons.

**INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.**—These are run by the County Council and are as follows :

*Oxford Street Clinic :*

Infant Welfare—Every Thursday afternoon, 2nd and 4th Monday, 2 p.m.

Child Guidance—Alternate Tuesdays, 12-30 p.m.

Eye Clinic—Thursdays.

Relaxation Classes—Mondays 6-30 p.m., Tuesdays 10 a.m., Wednesdays 2-30 p.m.

Immunisation Clinic—2nd Thursday in each month, 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.



*St. Andrew's Hall, Croyland Estate :*

Infant Welfare Centre—2nd and 4th Wednesday, 2 p.m.

*Finedon :*

Infant Welfare Centre, Co-operative Hall—First Thursday of the month.

These centres are very well attended. With the event of overspill extra centres will be necessary and this matter is being borne in mind. During the late nineteenth century in England and Wales every sixth baby died before its first birthday. Now infant mortality has fallen substantially but still one infant in 50 dies. The infant welfare centres have helped considerably in the lowering of the infant mortality rate.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, & NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951, S. 47.—Under Section 47 of this Act old persons in need of care and attention and who are unable to receive this under their present circumstances become the responsibility of the Council for removal to suitable premises where they will receive such attention. No such cases were removed during the year. Compulsory removal is only used as a last resort when it would be considered dangerous to leave them any longer alone. Many old people were visited during the year. In dealing with some of the difficult cases great assistance is rendered by the County Welfare Officers. There is a committee formed now that deals with 'problem families' and it is a most useful committee. It deals mostly with families where there are young children but old persons could also be dealt with if they were in need of help.

There is an Old Folks' Welfare Committee in the town which is doing good work amongst the old folk. A 'Meals on Wheels' service is run by the W.V.S. In Wellingborough Darby and Joan Clubs are run at Swanspool Pavilion, Eastfield Park Pavilion and Northampton Road Hall. A chiropody service is run in connection with these clubs. At Finedon the Darby and Joan Club meet weekly at the Town Hall.

HOUSING OF OLD PEOPLE.—The Housing and Estates Committee of the Council have been mindful for many years of the need to provide housing accommodation for old people. Up to 1957 this accommodation was in the form of old folks' bungalows, bed-sitting room flats and one bed-roomed flats. In 1957 the Council agreed to launch a pilot scheme at Finedon consisting of 16 old people's bungalows with a Warden's house and communal room. This proved a great success. Due to increasing demands the Council next acquired "Hattondale", The Promenade, Wellingborough, and converted it into 14 bed-sitting room flats with Warden's quarters and common room facilities.

By 1962 the district Council had provided for old people, 56 bungalows, 38 one-bedroomed flats and 33 bed-sitting room flats. There still existed a need for housing for single elderly persons who although well enough to look after themselves, would be more suitably housed in old people's flatlets under the friendly supervision of a warden. The Council have gone forward with a scheme for 29 flatlets in a two-storey block together with communal lounge, guest room and Warden's residence. The design and layout which is on land overlooking Croyland Park includes 8 bungalows and 8 bed-sitting room flats as well as the two-storey block of flats.



## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

**WATER SUPPLY.**—The town receives its water supply from the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board. The chief sources of this supply are from reservoirs situated at Pitsford, Cransley, Thorpe Malsor, Ravensthorpe and Hollowell. Pitsford is situated about 5 miles north of Northampton in a valley on a tributary of the Brampton branch of the River Nene. The gathering grounds for this reservoir cover about nineteen square miles and is mostly agricultural land with a certain amount of ironstone quarrying. This reservoir was formed by the construction of an earthen embankment across a valley. The reservoir, when full, will hold about 4,000 million gallons. Treatment consists of the raw water flowing to a pumping station below the dam from where it is pumped to the treatment works. The treatment works consist of a chemical block, reaction tanks, filters, filtered water tank and pumping station. The water is first softened and then passed through open rapid gravity filters and then to the filtered water tank for sterilisation by chlorine. Water thus treated is pumped to three trunk mains for distribution.

**WATER SAMPLES.**—The following water samples were taken in the Wellingborough area during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton for bacteriological examination :

<i>Total</i>	<i>Very Satisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Suspicious</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
42	42	Nil	Nil	Nil

The Board also take routine samples in the area but I have no information as to the results of these samples. Complaints are received at these offices during the course of a year and are investigated in conjunction with the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board.

**RAINFALL.**—The rainfall recorded for the year at Swanspool Gardens was 22.94 inches. The following table gives the rainfall for the years dating back to 1952 :

<i>1952</i>	<i>1953</i>	<i>1954</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>	<i>1957</i>	<i>1958</i>	<i>1959</i>	<i>1960</i>
25.8	18.77	29.06	19.09	24.97	25.59	30.58	20.06	31.93
<i>1961</i>	<i>1962</i>	<i>1963</i>						
20.24	18.67	22.94						

**PIPED WATER SUPPLY.**—All houses in the area have a piped water supply with the exception of four which have not and 21 which are dependent upon standpipes.

**SEWAGE DISPOSAL, DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.**—The method for sewage treatment at Wellingborough consists of land irrigation. This is also the method adopted at Finedon. The area of land at Finedon is rather confined and due to the fact that these works have been in use for many years they are now giving unsatisfactory final effluent results and an alternative method has to be sought. In the future sewage from Finedon will be brought to Wellingborough and treated at the sewage farm, Irthlingborough Road, Wellingborough. During the year construction work on two new sewers was commenced, the first is for the main drainage of Finedon which

will bring it to the Wellingborough works. When this is completed the Finedon Sewage Disposal plant will be closed down. This sewer will also make provision for accepting sewage from the Northern part of the town. Here housing development is taking place to deal with overspill. This scheme entails the building of a new pumping station. The second new sewer is being built to drain the Denington Industrial Estate and takes over from the existing pumping stations in Doddington Road and London Road and discharges the whole of the sewage by gravity to the new pumping station mentioned above.

At the moment this new pumping station is under construction and when this is functioning foul sewage will be pumped direct to the top of the sewage farm. When the flow is between three and six times the dry weather flow it will pass up a rising main to the tanks at the present steam pumping station, Irthlingborough Road. These tanks will be used for holding purposes only and after the storm they will empty back down the rising main to the new pumping station and will then be pumped up to the top of the farm in the normal way. If the quantity which goes up to these tanks is in excess of their capacity they will overflow to the ozier beds situated on the Eastern side of the railway embankment. There is a future scheme for the building of a new modern works at Wellingborough.

The results of chemical analyses of final effluent from the Wellingborough works taken at Spike Island on 27th February, 1963, gave the following results :

Appearance of Liquid	..	..	Fairly clear, light brown
pH Value	..	..	7.6

					<i>Parts per million</i>
Suspended solids dried at 105°C.	..	..	..	..	10.0
Suspended solids ashed at 600°C.	..	..	..	..	5.0
Chlorides as Chlorine	..	..	..	..	124.0
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	..	..	..	..	150.0
Free and Saline Ammonia as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	2.1
Albuminoid Ammonia as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	0.8
Nitrates as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	15.2
Nitrites as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	0.02
Permanganate Value (4 hours)	..	..	..	..	8.8
Biochemical Oxygen Demands in 5 days at 20°C.	..	..	..	..	11.0

*Remarks*— A satisfactory discharge.

The quantity of sewage pumped by the two stations at Wellingborough during the year was as follows :

					<i>Total sewage pumped Gallons</i>	<i>Sewage pumped average per week Gallons</i>
Cattle Market Pumping Station	..	..			194,520,000	3,740,769
Irthlingborough Road Pumping Station	..				230,682,360	4,427,304
Total	..	..	..	..	425,202,360	8,168,073

These figures do not include output of Cattle Market storm pumps or Finedon flow.



DISINFECTION.—Six premises were disinfected following cases of infectious diseases. Twenty-six articles of clothing, bedding, etc., were also disinfected in connection with the control of infectious diseases. Twenty-five articles were destroyed on request. Steam disinfection is carried out by arrangement with Rushden U.D.C. who have a steam disinfection centre.

SWIMMING BATHS.—There is no public swimming pool in Wellingborough. However, an Association has been formed in the town with a view to raising funds towards the building of a pool. Already there have been signs of considerable support from the town for this project and it is to be hoped that Wellingborough, one day, will have its own pool.

There are two private pools, one at the Wellingborough School and the second at the Wellingborough High School for Girls. Samples of water from these pools were checked during the season.

The paddling pool at the Embankment, which is very popular in fine weather, was kept under supervision and samples taken for bacteriological examination. Young children so often use this as a swimming pool that it is necessary for frequent checks. The water is chlorinated.

CARAVAN SITES.—There are five licensed sites in the area.

PUBLIC CLEANSING, REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.—There is a weekly collection of household refuse and there are also facilities for the disposal of trade waste. The tip is situated at Gipsy Lane, Irchester, and controlled tipping is carried out. Wellingborough Rural District Council, by agreement, also tip here.

Refuse collection and disposal of by controlled tipping during the year was as follows :

		<i>Domestic Refuse</i>	<i>Trade Refuse</i>
No. of loads .. ..		5,117	2,592
Tonnage .. ..		9,122	1,944

In addition an estimated tonnage of 4,200 tons was disposed of for the Wellingborough Rural District.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.—Estimation of sulphur in the atmosphere is carried out by Lead Peroxide instruments. This gives the results of sulphur in the atmosphere as S.O<sub>3</sub> collected Mg./100 sq. cms./day. The following are the S.O<sub>3</sub> figures for Wellingborough and Finedon :

		<i>Lyric Cinema</i>	<i>Allen Road, Finedon</i>
January	1963	2.32	2.15
February	„	1.65	2.53
March	„	1.14	1.31
April	„	1.06	1.13
May	„	0.77	0.86
June	„	0.57	0.68
July	„	0.46	0.45
August	„	0.58	1.01
September	„	0.71	0.63
October	„	1.00	1.22
November	„	1.12	1.58
December	„	1.50	1.74



The figures, as usual, show a seasonal variation, but at no stage reach a height that can be considered dangerous. It is at time of fog or smog that sulphur held in the atmosphere can increase to a dangerous level. It is regretted that the deposit gauges are no longer in use. They gave valuable information of deposited matter in tons per square mile and were a means by which pollution of the atmosphere could be constantly kept under review. Personally, I would like to see them brought back into use. The atmospheric pollution caused by the domestic chimney, factory chimney, etc., are the sources which have received most attention in the past. Action has been taken with regard to these and there has been an improvement. This improvement should be maintained and conditions be even better in the future when new buildings on new estates will be equipped for smokeless fuel. We should now turn to a further dangerous source of contamination and this is occurring in our streets daily. I refer to the fumes from motor vehicles both petrol and diesel. This is a dangerous source and as it is given off at street level is concentrated. The chimney at least discharges at a higher level, and is diluted down to some extent before it reaches the nostrils and lungs of the community. Future planners will have to endeavour to keep the motorist out of the centre of our cities and towns.

## SECTION D.

### HOUSING

The Council's building programme for the year was as follows :

<i>Type</i>	<i>Number</i>
Flatlets (one block) .. .. .	29
Warden's Quarters .. .. .	1
Old People's Bungalows .. .. .	8
Flats .. .. .	16

In addition construction work on phase 1 building programme for Overspill on the Queensway Estate was in progress. Work on 150 of the 164 houses was taking place.

The total number of houses completed by the Council in their building programme up to 1963 was 1,670.

The number of houses built by private enterprise was 128. The total number of houses built privately up to 1963 was 1,483.

The district Council as a result of their negotiations with the London County Council for the reception of 10,000 persons and industry from the London Area have agreed that the local authority should aim to build 3,000 houses during the next ten years, provided that sufficient industry is introduced.

Work was commenced at the Denington Industrial Estate, London Road, on the first factory during the year.

**CLEARANCE PROGRAMME.**—Wellingborough Urban District High Street Place Compulsory Purchase Order, 1963.— Nos. 1–10 High Street Place. The Order was confirmed by the Minister without modification on the 29th June, 1964.

**COUNCIL HOUSE APPLICATIONS.**—The number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year was :

Wellingborough :

<i>Applicants'</i> <i>Present Accommodation</i>	<i>31st December, 1963</i> <i>Awaiting consideration</i>	<i>Selected but</i> <i>not housed</i>
House ... ..	51	25
Houses outside area ...	20	11
Rooms ... ..	170	43
Clearance Areas ... ..	—	21
Various A.P.B.'s ... ..	47	35
<i>Totals</i> ... ..	288	135

This shows an increase of 34 on the previous year.

Finedon :

<i>Applicants'</i> <i>Present Accommodation</i>	<i>31st December, 1963</i> <i>Awaiting consideration</i>	<i>Selected but</i> <i>not housed</i>
House ... ..	—	15
Houses outside area	—	1
Rooms ... ..	—	23
Clearance Areas ... ..	—	7
Various A.P.B.'s ... ..	—	15
<i>Totals</i> ... ..	—	61

This figure shows an increase of 5 on the previous year.

I should like to thank the Housing Manager for his assistance with cases where a health factor is involved and the Chairman and members of the Housing Committee for the sympathetic consideration given to these cases.



## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES.**—The inspection of food premises is so very important in the maintaining of satisfactory hygiene standards. If these inspections are carried out as a matter of routine it is possible to maintain a high standard. If this work has to be interrupted so that these visits are irregular they lose much of their importance and consequently standards drop. It is hoped that in the future it will be possible to maintain routine visits as it is only by such means that the community can be protected against possible food poisoning outbreaks.

**MILK.**—There is a large dairy situated in the district which has a pasteurisation plant. The local authority is the licensing authority and so it is necessary for frequent visits to be made to the dairy. The situation is kept constantly under supervision by such visits and the taking of samples.

The following samples were taken during the year :

	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Void</i>
Milk Samples ...	108	100	6	2

Although the majority of samples were taken at the dairy referred to others were taken throughout the area. It is necessary for this as the authority is responsible for milk sold in the area.

**MILK BOTTLE RINSES.**—117 samples were taken and the results were as follows :

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Fairly Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
117	117	Nil	Nil

**CHURN RINSES.**—48 samples were taken and the results were as follows :

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Fairly Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
48	34	9	5

It will be appreciated that the churns are used for the collection of milk brought to the dairy for pasteurisation, nevertheless it is important that these churns should be maintained in a hygienic manner.

**ICE-CREAM.**—There are 120 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream. Nine samples were taken during the season and all were found to be satisfactory.

**MEAT INSPECTION.**—At present there is one large abattoir associated with a food manufacturing premises. From the following figures it will be seen that a very large number of pigs slaughtered at these premises had to be inspected. Another large abattoir associated with another food manufacturing premises has been constructed in the area and this will entail the slaughter and inspection of many cattle. These two abattoirs will fully

employ at least two of our inspectors. It is appreciated that this work is essential in looking after the interests of the community. A summary of the number of animals inspected over the last three years is as follows :

		<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Calves</i>
1961	...	399	19,986	2,057	—
1962	...	158	22,281	1,252	1
1963	...	—	22,798	1	1

The amount of meat and offal condemned as unfit for human consumption in 1963 was as follows :

1961	...	4 tons, 6 cwts., 1 qr., 1 lb.
1962	...	8 tons, 2 cwts, 1 qr., 2 lbs.
1963	...	7 tons, 16 cwts., 3 qrs., 11 lbs.



## SECTION F.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

**SMALLPOX.**—It is many years since a case of smallpox occurred in the area. With modern methods of travel it must always be borne in mind that a case of imported smallpox could be planted in our midst. Such a situation did occur in the country in the early part of the year under review. As a result of this our vaccination figures showed a tremendous increase and the figures for 1962 were 3,708 compared with 408 for the previous year. The figures for 1963 are not available and one wonders if this increase has been maintained. This is most unlikely, which is a pity, especially when one considers the difference in primary vaccination between the two years mentioned which was as follows: 1962 — 2,137; 1961 — 359. A community can only be protected by vaccination and if they allow this figure to fall they are always at risk. It has always been my opinion that the best time for primary vaccination was in the first year of life, 3 to 4 months of age. Unfortunately now the Ministry recommend the second year of life. The child at this age is much more active and vaccination can be a difficult problem. At 3—4 months the baby is less active and spends much time in sleep. I think also that the earlier age was more popular with parents and that it is inclined to be overlooked if left to the second year.

**SCARLET FEVER.**—There were seven cases compared with nine in the previous year. The majority of cases occurred in the last two months of the year. One case was admitted to hospital.

**DIPHTHERIA.**—It is twelve years since a case was last notified in the area. This satisfactory situation is due to the success of our immunisation campaign against this disease. It is rather fortunate that there is now a combined vaccine which gives protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus. Young parents of today have no knowledge of Diphtheria and could become apathetic. Whooping Cough is more realistic to them and also the fear of Tetanus.

**WHOOPING COUGH.**—Twenty-eight cases were notified compared with none in the previous year. The majority of cases occurred in the Summer months and the age incidence was four in infants and the remainder between the ages of 3 and 15 years. Three cases were admitted to hospital.

**MEASLES.**—733 cases were notified compared with 124 in the previous year. There were some cases in the early months of the year increasing to a maximum of 347 in the month of June and then a sharp decline and no cases from September onwards. Three cases were admitted to hospital.

**PUERPERAL PYREXIA.**—Six cases were notified during the year compared with three in the previous year. Table No. 6 in Section H shows that the number of cases per month was one in January and from May to September one in each of these months.

**PNEUMONIA.**—Twenty-four cases were notified compared with nineteen in the previous year. 35 deaths gave pneumonia as a contributory cause



of death, compared with 11 in the previous year. The weather at the beginning of the year was very severe. The majority of these pneumonia deaths occurred amongst old people and undoubtedly were associated with the severe cold weather.

INFLUENZA.—There were ten deaths from this cause compared with three in the previous year. Eight of these deaths were over 65 years and again must be associated with the very severe Winter.

CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER.—No cases have occurred for four years.

ERYSIPELAS.—Two cases were notified compared with one in the previous year.

DYSENTERY.—Nine cases were notified compared with ten in the previous year. It was interesting to note that six of these cases were notified in January. It is my opinion that there were many more cases of Dysentery which did not come to light.

POLIOMYELITIS.—It is now four years since a case was notified in the area. This is undoubtedly due to the satisfactory response by the public to the campaign waged against this disease. The introduction of the oral vaccine has helped considerably as mothers and children are partial to this method. It must be remembered that to protect the community a satisfactory level must be maintained. Unfortunately the figures for vaccination for the area are not available but from information from clinics it would appear that the figures are being maintained.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—No cases were notified.

FOOD POISONING.—Four cases were notified compared with none in the previous year. The notifications of cases of Food Poisoning are most important as each should be thoroughly investigated. Cases may be due to carelessness in the home but also may be due to low standards of food hygiene in shop premises.

EPIDEMIC DIARRHŒA.—Outbreaks of diarrhœa of virus origin occur from time to time. Although a lot is not known of method of spread presumably this is similar to that for the excremental diseases. Again the chief method of prevention is personal hygiene and after visiting the lavatory facilities for the washing of hands should be available. 14 cases of diarrhœa from the area were sent to Harborough Road Hospital but stool examination showed no specific organism.

INFECTIVE HEPATITIS.—Five cases were notified during the year. In September when these cases were first brought to my notice on investigation I found that they were associated with a school party who had gone on holidays to the Continent. The party consisted of four adults and twenty-nine pupils. Three of the pupils were from other schools, of the four adults two were males, and of the pupils 19 were girls and 10 boys. The first case occurred in a girl on the way to their destination. It was at first thought that it may have been a case of travel sickness as at the same time a boy was also sick from this cause. Subsequently the original case who had appeared to recover during the holiday came out in jaundice on the way home and was finally diagnosed on arrival home as a case of infective hepatitis. There were nine further cases one being an adult who was in close attendance. This turned out to be a severe case and one of the pupils was removed to

Harborough Road Hospital. The other cases were all fairly mild. It is interesting to note that all cases were amongst females and that those directly associated with the original case were the first to suffer and were the most serious. On the other hand none of the males in this party developed infective hepatitis. From investigations carried out it would appear that the virus is spread in the urine. These findings are similar to a previous investigation of an outbreak of infective hepatitis in a boys' school where cases were amongst boys aged 5 to 6 years and again spread appeared to be via the urine as the boys were using one insanitary urinal.

TUBERCULOSIS.—There were twelve new cases notified, ten were pulmonary tuberculosis and two non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The figures for the previous year were 24 cases of respiratory tuberculosis and two non-respiratory. One death occurred from respiratory tuberculosis compared with none in the previous year. The number of notifications show a fall on the previous year and in the following table which gives the number of notifications dating back to 1948 it will be seen that this is the second lowest figure.

1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
11	19	17	23	11	24	16	17
1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
15	15	26	23	23	6	24	10

Seven cases were admitted to Rushden House Sanatorium and nine discharged during the year. The number of cases on the tuberculosis register at the end of the year was as follows :

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary .. ..	85	44	129
Non-Pulmonary .. ..	22	17	39
			168

The following table shows a comparison between the mortality figures for Wellingborough and the Administrative County dating back to 1948.

Year	Tuberculosis—All forms			Rate per 1,000 population	
	Male	Female	Total	Wellingboro'	County
1948	4	6	10	.35	.42
1949	5	3	8	.28	.43
1950	7	—	7	.24	.30
1951	7	4	11	.38	.26
1952	3	3	6	.21	.25
1953	5	2	7	.24	.18
1954	2	2	4	.13	.12
1955	2	3	5	.17	.09
1956	3	—	3	.14	.09
1957	2	—	2	.06	.06
1958	—	2	2	.06	.08
1959	1	1	2	.06	.07
1960	3	—	3	.09	.05
1961	1	1	2	.06	.08
1962	—	1	1	.03	.05
1963	1	—	1	.03	*

\* Not Available.



The Mass Radiography Unit visits the town weekly and runs a G.P. Referral Service. In the future surveys of areas such as Wellingborough will not be carried out but the unit will concentrate on such services as the G.P. Referral Service and special surveys of sections of the community subject to certain risk. It has been found that this is much more beneficial as the number of cases picked up in the larger surveys is very small. The fourteen year old school child is now offered the protection of B.C.G. Vaccination and this means that for the susceptible years when they could possibly meet up with a person with an open focus they have a protection. Possibly this is the reason why notifications now are often found amongst the older age groups.

The After-Care Committee continues to carry out its excellent work in the area.

INTERNATIONAL HELP FOR CHILDREN.—Parties of children coming to the district from the Continent for holidays are examined on request.



## SECTION G.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1961

There are 211 factories in the area and this number is one less than last year. 38 inspections were carried out during the year. Table No. 10 in Section H gives further information. There were 181 Outworkers on the August List. No action was necessary in respect of Homework, S. 133 and 134.

The Factory Inspectors carry out routine inspections of factories and if in the course of their inspections they find anything that comes under this local authority then it is referred by them.

On occasions I have found it necessary to investigate certain illnesses in association with H.M. Medical Inspector of Factories with whom I have close liaison.

# SECTION H.

## STATISTICAL TABLES, 1963

TABLE No. 1

### CAUSES OF DEATH

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .. ..	1	—	1
2. Tuberculosis, other .. ..	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease .. ..	1	—	1
4. Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .. ..	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections .. ..	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..	—	—	—
8. Measles .. ..	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	5	3	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9	1	10
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	—	5	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	4	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. ..	18	9	27
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia .. ..	—	—	—
16. Diabetes .. ..	1	3	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	17	29	46
18. Coronary disease, angina .. ..	35	29	64
19. Hypertension with heart disease ..	4	10	14
20. Other heart diseases .. ..	43	48	91
21. Other circulatory diseases .. ..	8	12	20
22. Influenza .. ..	3	7	10
23. Pneumonia .. ..	23	12	35
24. Bronchitis .. ..	10	3	13
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	—	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	2	2	4
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ..	—	2	2
28. Nephritis and neprosis .. ..	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .. ..	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	1	1
31. Congenital malformations .. ..	2	—	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	17	11	28
33. Motor vehicle accidents .. ..	1	—	1
34. All other accidents .. ..	3	6	9
35. Suicide .. ..	—	1	1
36. Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES .. ..	207	200	407

# DEATHS FROM SELECTED CAUSES

TABLE NO. 2

Year	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Cancer		Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels		Bronchitis Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1946	2	.07	6	.21	66	2.38	149	5.37	25	.90
1947	1	.03	7	.24	53	1.88	173	6.14	24	.85
1948	1	.03	9	.31	50	1.77	166	5.87	35	1.23
1949	1	.03	7	.24	61	2.16	183	6.48	32	1.13
1950	—	—	7	.24	68	2.40	204	7.21	33	1.16
1951	1	.03	10	.35	54	1.90	133	4.69	35	1.23
1952	—	—	6	.21	53	1.87	199	7.04	28	.99
1953	1	.03	6	.21	58	2.03	229	8.02	30	1.05
1954	—	—	4	.13	56	1.95	200	6.97	34	1.18
1955	—	—	5	.17	45	1.56	193	6.70	21	.72
1956	—	—	3	.10	62	2.15	194	6.73	26	.90
1957	—	—	2	.06	68	2.33	191	6.56	30	1.03
1958	1	.03	1	.03	62	2.10	234	7.94	37	1.25
1959	—	—	2	.06	65	2.18	198	6.65	54	1.81
1960	—	—	3	.09	60	1.99	227	7.56	51	1.69
1961	—	—	2	.06	70	2.28	224	7.30	42	1.36
1962	—	—	1	.03	81	2.60	226	7.27	37	1.19
1963	—	—	1	.03	54	1.71	235	7.48	50	1.59

# COMPARISON OF STILLBIRTHS, ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS AND MASCULINITY OF BIRTH

TABLE NO. 3

Year	Stillbirths per 1,000		Illegitimate births per 1,000 live births	Male births per 1,000 live female births
	Population of all ages	Total Births live and still		
1946	.54	29.29	62.37	1,004
1947	.53	12.98	65.72	1,022
1948	.46	13.63	49.40	1,000
1949	.21	22.93	41.66	1,111
1950	.42	12.34	40.38	1,136
1951	.56	25.04	60.53	1,096
1952	.21	22.93	34.56	1,333
1953	.17	37.29	35.00	1,285
1954	.34	27.71	39.90	1,206
1955	.38	26.63	44.77	1,138
1956	.24	16.00	40.09	972
1957	.24	14.92	45.45	1,100
1958	.47	16.40	57.97	1,215
1959	.33	19.96	69.24	903
1960	.46	25.04	56.88	960
1961	.32	18.72	82.00	912
1962	.25	13.69	100.69	1,013
1963	.25	14.21	88.28	1,070



# VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1963 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

TABLE NO. 4

Year	Estimated Population	Births		Deaths			
				Under 1 year		All ages	
		No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000
1946	27,740	497	17.91	14	28.16	345	12.43
1947	28,170	639	22.68	23	35.99	346	12.28
1948	28,240	506	17.91	15	29.64	335	11.86
1949	28,200	456	16.20	15	32.89	366	12.97
1950	28,290	421	14.88	15	35.62	381	13.46
1951	28,380	413	14.55	12	29.05	361	12.72
1952	28,250	434	15.36	10	23.04	334	11.82
1953	28,520	400	14.02	7	17.5	388	13.60
1954	28,670	426	14.85	10	23.47	349	12.10
1955	28,780	402	13.96	5	12.43	329	11.43
1956	28,810	424	14.71	9	21.22	346	12.00
1957	29,110	462	15.87	9	19.48	362	12.43
1958	29,440	483	16.40	7	14.49	416	14.13
1959	29,740	491	16.50	16	32.58	387	13.01
1960	30,020	545	18.15	10	18.34	416	13.85
1961	30,670	524	17.08	9	17.17	409	13.33
1962	31,050	576	18.55	15	26.04	428	13.78
1963	31,410	555	17.66	8	14.41	407	12.95

## NEW CASES OF, AND DEATHS FROM, TUBERCULOSIS, 1963

TABLE NO. 5

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non- respiratory		Respiratory		Non- respiratory	
	Male	Fe- male	Male	Fe- male	Male	Fe- male	Male	Fe- male
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—25	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—35	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—45	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
—55	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
—65	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	9	1	2	—	1	—	—	—

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES  
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1963

TABLE NO. 6

<i>Disease</i>	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever    ..    ..    ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	7
Pneumonia        ..    ..    ..	2	7	3	1	1	1	2	—	—	3	—	4	24
Measles        ..    ..    ..    ..	7	—	17	89	263	347	9	1	—	—	—	—	733
Whooping Cough    ..    ..	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	1	10	1	1	—	24
Erysipelas        ..    ..    ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia        ..	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	6
Diphtheria        ..    ..    ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery        ..    ..    ..	6	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Food Poisoning        ..    ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	4
Cerebro-spinal Fever        ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis        ..    ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis    ..    ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	5
<b>TOTAL        ..    ..    ..</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>814</b>



AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES  
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1963

TABLE NO. 7

<i>Disease</i>	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-10	-15	-20	-35	-45	-65	65+	<i>All Ages</i>	<i>Removed to Hospital</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	—
Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	2	3	6	2	2	3	2	2	2	24	—	—
Measles .. ..	23	76	88	118	101	304	16	6	1	—	—	—	733	3	—
Whooping Cough	4	—	7	2	1	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	24	3	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	6	—	—
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	3	1	—	9	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
TOTAL .. ..	29	76	95	122	107	328	26	8	11	5	3	4	814	7	—

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH  
AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE

TABLE NO. 8

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>Measles</i>		<i>Whooping Cough</i>	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
—6 months	—	—	1	—
—12 months	10	13	2	1
—18 months	16	27	—	—
—2 years	22	11	—	—
—2½ years	31	31	—	2
—3 years	9	17	1	4
—4 years	49	69	1	1
—5 years	51	50	1	—
—10 years	155	149	2	4
—15 years	10	6	2	2
15 years+	4	3	—	—
ALL AGES	357	376	10	14
TOTALS	733		24	



# CAUSES OF DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR

TABLE No. 9

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Age in weeks</i>					
	<i>-1</i>	<i>-2</i>	<i>-3</i>	<i>-4</i>	<i>5-52</i>	<i>Total</i>
Whooping Cough .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous diseases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis and Diarrhœa ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	—	—	—	—	1	1
Premature Birth .. ..	3	—	—	—	—	3
Injury at Birth .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia and Atelectasis	2	—	—	—	—	2
Congenital Debility .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hæmolytic Disease .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes .. .. .	—	—	—	—	2	2
TOTALS .. .. .	5	—	—	—	3	8

TABLE No. 10

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961  
for the year 1963.

## PART I. OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. .. .	18	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	172	38	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	2	—	—	—
TOTAL .. .. .	211	38	—	—

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—



## PART VIII. OF THE ACT — OUTWORK

<i>Nature of Work</i>	SECTION 133			SECTION 134		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing apparel—						
Making, etc. . . . .	267	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning & Washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains & Furniture						
hangings . . . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture & Upholstery	1	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of Buttons, etc. . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT

---

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1963

---

A. J. STROUD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.



# Chief Public Health Inspector's Department

## STAFF

### *Chief Public Health Inspector :*

A. J. STROUD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Also Authorised Officer under the Shops,  
Petroleum, Theatres and Cinematograph Acts.

### *Additional Public Health Inspectors :*

D. B. HOPKINS, M.A.P.H.I.\*

K. B. ELLIS, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.\* (Resigned 17.12.1963)

J. HICK M.A.P.H.I.\* (Appointed 1.12.1963)

### *Clerk and Chief Public Health Inspector's Secretary :*

MISS H. TAMM

### *Outside Staff :*

Rodent Operatives/Manual Assistants—2.

\* Certified Meat and Food Inspector, The Royal Society of Health.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1963

**To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Wellingborough :**

MADAM CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my 17th Annual Report for the year 1963. This follows the lines of previous reports with statistical data and other information concerning the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department in the field of environmental hygiene. No detailed reference is made to the subsidiary duties for which I am responsible.

The year's work was on the whole very comprehensive, most activity however being in regard to housing improvements and meat inspection. Regarding the future, the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act received Royal assent on the 31st July, 1963, and will come into operation on the 1st August, 1964, giving effect to the recommendations of the Gowers Committee Report of 1949. Among other matters the Act will give greater powers to local authorities in regard to the health, safety and welfare of persons in non-industrial employment.

With regard to housing improvements, the new Housing Bill which is expected to become law during the current year contains important provisions for securing a more rapid expansion of the improvement grant scheme and will give local authorities compulsory powers to require improvements to be carried out where appropriate.

Regarding atmospheric pollution, so far attention has been directed towards the abatement of specific nuisances from industrial plant, no action having yet been taken to implement the smoke control provisions of the Clean Air Act. With the expansion of the town both industrially and residentially, opportunity should now be taken to plan new areas of development as smoke control areas with little administrative or financial cost.

The Meat Inspection Regulations which came into force on the 1st October marked an important step towards securing the efficient inspection of all animals slaughtered for human consumption throughout the country by October, 1965. In September the Council approved the appointment of an Additional Public Health Inspector owing to additional responsibilities in regard to meat inspection.

I am once again indebted to the Health Committee and the Council for their continued support and to all Chief Officers and their staffs for help and co-operation during the year, also to my staff for the zealous and conscientious manner in which they have undertaken their duties.

I am, Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

ALEC J. STROUD,

*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

Council Offices,

Swanspool,

WELLINGBOROUGH.

July, 1964.



TABLE A.  
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Complaints received .. .. .	562
Notices served .. .. .	55
Written Communications received .. .. .	1,513
Written Communications dispatched .. .. .	1,149

TABLE B.  
SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS  
GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH WORK

Water Supply .. .. .	17
Drainage and Sewerage .. .. .	442
Sanitary Accommodation .. .. .	7
Moveable Dwellings .. .. .	16
Theatres and Places of Entertainment .. .. .	3
Rivers and water courses—pollution of .. .. .	2
Factories, Workplaces and Outworkers' premises .. .. .	38
Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement .. .. .	58
Infectious Disease, Disinfection, etc. .. .. .	41
Keeping of Animals .. .. .	19
Offensive Accumulations .. .. .	13
Vermin and Pest Control .. .. .	36
Swimming Pools and Bathing Places .. .. .	5
Dilapidated structures .. .. .	3
HOUSING	
Public Health, Housing and Rent Acts .. .. .	269
Improvement Grants .. .. .	285
Special Surveys .. .. .	318
FOOD INSPECTION AND CONTROL	
Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouses .. .. .	424
Other Meat and Food Inspection .. .. .	108
Unsound Food—Investigations .. .. .	21
Shops and Warehouses .. .. .	92
Market Stalls and Street Food Vendors .. .. .	37
Food Manufacturing Premises .. .. .	20
Catering Establishments and Licensed Premises .. .. .	34
Ice Cream Premises .. .. .	8
Dairies, Milk Shops and Milk Distribution .. .. .	9
Food Transport and Distribution .. .. .	3
Slaughterhouses—Special visits .. .. .	24
Food Poisoning—Investigations .. .. .	4
Sampling—Milk, Milk Containers, Ice Cream and Other Foods .. .. .	148
OTHER VISITS	
Pet Shops and Animal Boarding Establishments .. .. .	3
Rodent Control (including visits by Rodent Operative) .. .. .	916
Shops Act .. .. .	12
Nuisances—Noise .. .. .	5
„ —Unclassified .. .. .	39
Petroleum Acts .. .. .	30
Theatres and Cinematograph Acts .. .. .	3
Outside Interviews .. .. .	126
Lectures, Talks, etc. .. .. .	2
Visits with no access .. .. .	282
Miscellaneous visits .. .. .	383

## HOUSING

The following action was taken during the year under Parts II and III of the Housing Act, 1957 :—

(a) *Clearance Areas*

High Street Place Clearance Area — 9 houses.  
Property included in a Compulsory Purchase Order.

(b) *Unfit Houses beyond repair at reasonable cost*

(i) *Demolition Orders made*

37 Oxford Street  
4, 5 and 6 Salem Lane  
7 and 9 Westfield Road  
26 and 28 West Street  
51 High Street, Finedon.

(ii) *Closing Orders made*

7 Wood Street  
3 St. Mary's Avenue, Finedon.

### REHOUSING

During the year, 7 families (22 persons) displaced from condemned houses were rehoused by the Housing Committee :—

Wellingborough	..	..	4 families	13 persons
Finedon	..	..	3 families	9 persons

### FORMAL ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING ACT, 1957

*(Figures for 1962 for comparison)*

TABLE C.

	1962	1963
Houses demolished (Clearance Areas)	20	26
Houses demolished (Not in Clearance Areas)	2	10
Unfit Houses Closed	2	1
Parts of Buildings Closed	—	1
Number of Persons displaced	47	26
Number of Families displaced	13	10

### PROPERTY ENQUIRIES

During the year 455 enquiries were received concerning the “life” of properties including official searches under the Land Charges Act.

### SPECIAL SURVEY

#### *Cannon Street Special Review Area*

In connection with a proposal to redevelop this area a detailed survey of the property was carried out, covering housing conditions, occupancy and employment. This area is largely composed of low category property at least 100 years old. Altogether 159 houses were inspected, 51% of which were found to be either unfit for human habitation or bordering on unfitness, the remainder being for the most part sub-standard.



RENT ACT, 1957

Certificates of Disrepair

Applications for certificates received	..	..	..	—
Decisions to issue certificates	..	..	..	—
Decisions not to issue certificates	..	..	..	—
Undertakings given by landlords to remedy defects	..			—
Certificates of Disrepair issued	..	..	..	—
Certificates of Disrepair cancelled by local authority	..			—

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Houses let in lodgings or occupied by persons of more than one family constitute a growing problem to many smaller provincial authorities as well as the larger centres of population. The present situation is the result of various factors including the high cost of house purchase, shortage of houses to rent, immigration, etc.

There are a considerable number of these houses in the Urban District, mostly however the smaller terraced type house, with amenities suitable and sufficient only for one-family occupation, some being occupied not only by families but communally by single persons. Unless adequate and properly equipped, such accommodation can only be regarded as make-shift and unsatisfactory.

These houses are not required to be registered with the local authority and with conditions constantly changing it is extremely difficult to assess and deal with the problem effectively.

The Housing Act, 1961, and Regulations since made provide a considerable measure of control as regards overcrowding and the provision of facilities. The Health Committee are examining the problem in the light of reports on individual cases.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959

Standard Improvement Grants

113 applications for grants were received during the year compared with 71 in 1962 and 114 in 1961. 92 were in respect of owner/occupied houses.

285 visits were made by the inspectors for the purpose of initial surveys and inspection of works.

Summary of applications received and grants paid

(a) 1963

TABLE D.

Applications			Grants Paid						
Received	Approved		Number of Dwellings	Total Amount	Amenities Provided				
	Owner Occupied	Tenanted			Baths	Wash hand basins	Hot water supplies	Water closets	Food stores
113	84	20	66	£6,903.11.5	46	52	60	52	22

(b) 1959 - 1963

Applications received	537 (85% owner/occupied houses)
Applications approved	505
Applications disallowed	24
Applications withdrawn	7
Applications awaiting decision	1
Number of grants paid	383
Total amount paid	£35,730 8s. 5d.

The overall response by owners and tenants to the improvement grant scheme has been very disappointing. Although there was a small increase in the number of applications for grant, the present rate of improvements is far below what is needed, particularly as regards tenanted houses, which in the main have not benefitted from the scheme. With a view to stimulating grant aided improvements the Minister of Housing and Local Government issued a circular in August requesting local authorities to tackle the problem systematically on a street or area basis. A start was made by surveying all the houses in Alexandra Road, when it was found that 114 out of a total of 157 houses (125 owner/occupied) would be eligible for grant aid in respect of one or more of the standard amenities viz. bath in a bathroom, wash basin, hot water supply, food store and internal water closet. Broadly speaking however, there is every indication that some measure of compulsion as envisaged in the Housing Bill now before Parliament will be necessary to secure the desired results.

#### CARAVAN DWELLINGS

Licences were issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, in respect of five small temporary residential caravan sites, planning permission in each case having been granted for limited periods. The total number of dwellings involved was nine. In addition to these, a few sites continued to be used as regular winter quarters by travelling showmen. No special problems arose during the year.

#### DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY

All but twenty-five houses in the Urban District have an internal piped water supply. Four isolated dwellings are served by private wells, while twenty-one have external stand-posts. These latter are all unfit houses with a limited life.

#### SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHING PLACES

Three schools in the town have open air swimming pools. The water in each case is efficiently treated by continuous filtration and chlorination. In addition there are two children's paddling pools. All are extensively used during the summer months. Regular samples of the water are taken for bacteriological examination.

#### DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

432 visits were made to premises in connection with new and existing drainage and 125 tests were applied. 518 cases of obstructed sewers and drains were dealt with by the department, 174 of which concerned council houses.



Cesspools and septic tanks were emptied on 118 occasions during the year, 34 related to properties in Nest Lane. The work is carried out by the Council on a re-chargeable basis as follows:—

Domestic properties in Nest Lane — fixed charge of 25s.

Other properties — at cost.

There are 108 properties in the Urban District which are not on main drainage.

### CONTROL OF NOISE

No complaints were received during the year of industrial noise nuisances requiring action under the Noise Abatement Act.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are two registered offensive trades in the Urban District, a rag and bone dealer and a gut scraper and fat melter. Both trades operated satisfactorily without cause for complaint.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Twenty-seven visits were made during the year in connection with the investigation of complaints of smoke nuisances and informal action was taken where necessary.

The two lead dioxide instruments were operated at sites in the town centre and at Finedon respectively. This instrument is for the purpose of estimating the relative concentration of atmospheric sulphur. This pollutant arises largely from the burning of raw bituminous coal and variations between summer and winter periods may therefore be expected especially in residential areas. The harmful effects of sulphur compounds are due to their insidious nature as invisible pollution which is discharged at fairly low levels. The figures as shown in Table F are typical of the average town with light industry and may be considered satisfactory.

Although the Wellingborough Iron Company's works closed down in October, 1962, the Council continued the operation of the four deposit gauges for comparative purposes (see Table E).

DEPOSITED MATTER (tons per square mile per month).

TABLE E. January — December, 1963

<i>Month</i>	<i>Hillside Road</i>	<i>Finedon Road Cooling Tower</i>	<i>Highfield Hospital</i>	<i>Council Depot Cannon Street</i>
January	5.89	3.74	6.62	7.75
February	6.25	4.04	4.54	6.83
March	7.94	8.95	8.18	12.63
April	13.62	6.61	8.23	14.50
May	7.00	6.12	6.21	10.75
June	9.59	8.23	* —	10.75
July	6.63	4.28	4.66	6.94
August	6.35	15.87	7.32	7.76
September	4.36	3.23	4.10	5.58
October	4.81	4.59	4.80	7.04
November	6.36	6.61	5.34	6.54
December	† —	† —	† —	† —
Average per month	7.16	6.57	6.00	8.82

\* No result due to extraneous contamination. † Gauges discontinued.



# ESTIMATION OF SULPHUR BY LEAD DIOXIDE METHOD

January — December, 1963

TABLE F.

Month	Weight of SO <sub>2</sub> collected mg/100 sq. cm/day	
	Lyric Cinema	Allen Road, Finedon
January	2.32	2.15
February	1.65	2.53
March	1.14	1.31
April	1.06	1.13
May	0.77	0.86
June	0.57	0.68
July	0.46	0.45
August	0.58	1.01
September	0.71	0.63
October	1.00	1.22
November	1.12	1.58
December	1.55	1.74

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

#### MILK

##### (a) *Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959*

No. of registered dairies (other than dairy farms) ..	1
No. of registered milk distributors .. .. .	33

##### (b) *Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960*

All milk sold by retail in the Urban District must be “designated”, i.e. Pasteurised, Sterilised or Tuberculin Tested and is subject to licensing control. Licences are issued by the District Council under delegated powers from the Northamptonshire County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority for the area.

*Licences granted (as at 31.12.1963)*

(i) Dealer's (Pasteurisers) Licence .. .. .	1
(ii) Dealer's (Pre-packed Milk) Licences applicable to one or more of the three designations ..	32

There was no material change in the town's milk supply during the year, most of which is processed and bottled in one modern pasteurising dairy. The premises, plant and processes are subject to regular inspection and frequent samples are taken for laboratory testing.

##### (c) *Sampling*

108 samples of milk as sold by retail were tested by the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton, 94% of which passed the prescribed tests (see Table G). Four out of the five samples which failed the Methylene Blue test for keeping quality were from a vending machine which has since been removed.

(d) *Milk Containers*

117 washed milk bottles (39 batches) and 48 churn rinses (8 batches) were submitted for laboratory examination.

<i>Result</i>		<i>Washed Bottles</i>	<i>Church Rinses</i>
Satisfactory	.. ..	117	34
Fairly Satisfactory	..	—	9
Unsatisfactory	..	—	5

MILK SAMPLING

TABLE G.

<i>Class of Milk</i>	<i>No. of Samples Tested</i>	<i>Tests</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>		
			<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Void</i>
Pasteurised	50	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	50	—	—
			49	1	—
T.T. (Pasteurised)	45	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	44	1	—
			39	4	2
Sterilised	8	Turbidity	8	—	—
Raw Tuberculin Tested	5	Methylene Blue	5	—	—

ICE CREAM AND PRESERVED FOOD

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, at 31st December, 1963 :—

(a)	Manufacture of ice cream	.. ..	Nil
(b)	Storage and sale of ice cream	.. ..	120
(c)	Manufacture of preserved food	.. ..	59

Most of the ice cream sold in the Urban District is supplied by a few large proprietary manufacturers distributing on a national scale. The number of premises retailing ice cream has remained substantially the same during the last five years.

Nine samples of ice cream and water ices were taken for bacteriological testing :—

- Ice cream 7 samples — All Satisfactory (Grades 1 and 2).
- Ice Lollies (Water Ices) 2 — Both Satisfactory.



## UNSOUND FOOD

Particulars of meat and other foods examined  
and rejected as unfit for human consumption  
other than at slaughterhouses.

TABLE H.

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>No. of Items</i>	<i>Weight lbs.</i>	<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Weight lbs.</i>
<i>Tinned &amp; Bottled Goods :</i>			<i>General Items :</i>	
Fish	68	31	Bacon	127
Fruit	1,412	1,660	Biscuits	103
Fruit Juice	15	17	Cake	26
Ham	485	2,494	Cereals	48
Jams and Preserves	139	165	Cooking Fat	3
Meat (various)	251	650	Custard Powder	10
Milk and Cream	72	49	Desiccated Coconut	20
Milk Puddings	37	36	Dried Fruit	6
Pickles and Sauces	47	34	Fritter Mixture	2
Soups	33	25	Frozen Foods	85
Vegetables	313	240	Ham	320
			Margarine	3
			Meat—Beef	186
			„ —Offal	76
			Salt	18
			Sugar	19
			Miscellaneous	24
TOTAL	2,872	5,401	TOTAL	1,076

Total Weight :— 2 Tons 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 9 lbs.

No. of Certificates of Condemnation issued — 258.

### *Special Cases*

The following cases were investigated following complaint by purchasers of the food :—

- Packet of cereal containing a small earthworm.
- Packet of fritter mixture infested by bread beetles.
- Portion of bread containing a beetle.
- Tin of grapefruit containing a finger plaster.
- Packet of bread rolls contaminated by mould.
- Sliced bread contaminated by mould.

Suitable action was taken by the Health Committee in each case, but no legal proceedings were instituted.

In view of an increasing number of instances of mould contamination in bread, particularly sliced wrapped bread, the Health Committee sought the observations of the British Baking Industries Research Association on the problem.



COMPOSITIONAL QUALITY OF FOOD AND DRUGS

The following extract from the report of the Chief Food and Drugs Inspector giving particulars of samples procured in the Urban District has been supplied by the Northamptonshire County Council.

					<i>Brought forward</i> ...				130
" Milk ...	...	...	...	76	Medicines	...	...	...	3
Sweets	...	...	...	3	Butter	...	...	...	2
Soft Drinks	...	...	...	14	Ice Cream	...	...	...	1
Meat Products	...	...	...	9	Cream	...	...	...	1
Cheese	...	...	...	2	Yoghourt	...	...	...	1
Spirits	...	...	...	8	Margarine	...	...	...	1
Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	4	Lard	...	...	...	1
Jam	...	...	...	2	Mayonnaise	...	...	...	1
Lagers	...	...	...	4	Biscuits	...	...	...	1
Fish Products	...	...	...	4					
Dripping and Oil	...	...	...	4					
				<hr/>					<hr/>
<i>Carried forward</i> ...				130	TOTAL ...				142
									<hr/>

Remarks

All the milk samples taken during the year were genuine.

The legal proceedings referred to in the summary for a misleading label on a non-excisable beverage were referred to in this report last year. The actual report to the Ministry was made during the current year and this is the reason for the brief report included in the summary.

One sample was incorrectly described as "Blackcurrant—a blend of blackcurrant and other fruit juices" and the Public Analyst certified that it contained only 20 per cent. of fruit juice and 30 per cent. of sugar, the remaining 50 per cent. consisting of water. The manufacturers have agreed to amend their label to describe the product as a soft drink and not as a fruit juice.

The remaining samples were completely satisfactory."

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

At the present time there are some 320 food premises of all classes in the Urban District. Unfortunately a programme of systematic inspection of all such premises has not been possible owing to commitments in other sections of the department's work, many of the inspections being carried out jointly with visits for other specific purposes.

The modernisation and improvement of food premises continued to be carried out during the year, together with a further extension of self-service trading in pre-wrapped frozen and labelled foods.

Attention was again paid to the open market, held twice each week, and which contains 30 food stalls. During the year it was necessary to issue numerous warnings to traders in connection with unsatisfactory conditions and unhygienic practices. In this form of trading there is a constant risk of food contamination, and with a lack of proper facilities the standards of hygiene are generally lower than those appertaining to other food premises. With the proposed re-development of the town centre, consideration could perhaps be given to the provision of indoor accommodation for food trading supplied with all necessary facilities.

The necessity of maintaining satisfactory standards of hygiene in all aspects of manufacture, handling, storage and sale of food cannot be too strongly stressed in view of the risk of food poisoning where open and perishable food is concerned. From the local authority's standpoint, the need for regular inspection is of the utmost importance if the statutory provisions of the regulations are to be effectively administered, and to achieve this it is considered that food premises should be inspected by the Public Health Inspector on average twice a year.

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

The only licensed slaughterhouse in the Urban District during the year was the abattoir of Messrs. Saxby Bros. Ltd., all others having closed on 30th September, 1962, the "appointed day" for full compliance with the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations. This abattoir is primarily for the slaughter of pigs for the firm's retail and manufacturing trade.

The construction of a new private abattoir in Irthlingborough Road for Messrs. Moss Waltham & Co. Ltd., was commenced in June, 1963, and will operate in conjunction with the firm's new meat factory which was completed during the year. The abattoir is expected to be completed and in operation by August, 1964. The firm has recently transferred from London to Wellingborough under the Council's overspill agreement.

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year was 22,800, equivalent to 11,400 cattle units. The following table gives the figures for the five years 1959/63 :—

TABLE I.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
1959	542	3	3,431	18,468	22,444
1960	505	2	2,147	19,334	21,988
1961	399	—	2,057	19,986	22,442
1962	158	1	1,252	22,281	23,692
1963	—	1	1	22,798	22,800

On the 1st October, 1963, the Meat Inspection Regulations came into force, providing for the first time a compulsory system of meat inspection and meat marking. Local authorities are also permitted to make charges for meat inspection on a unit basis up to a maximum specified in the Regulations. Having regard to cost of meat inspection locally, the District Council decided to apply the maximum charges. 100% meat inspection was already being carried out so that there was no difficulty in complying with the Regulations, although some increase in the time spent on meat inspection has resulted.

#### *Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958*

The number of persons licensed by the local authority to slaughter animals at 31st December, 1963, was 16.



CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED  
IN WHOLE OR IN PART

TABLE J.

	<i>Cattle Excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number killed .. ..	—	—	1	1	22,798	22,800
Number inspected .. ..	—	—	1	1	22,798	22,800
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	9	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	3,692	3,692
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci ..	—	—	—	—	16.2	16.2
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	645	645
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	2.8	2.8
<i>Cysticercosis</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—



# CARCASES CONDEMNED AS TOTALLY UNFIT

TABLE K.

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Bulls</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Steers</i>	<i>Heifers</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Emaciation	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Moribund	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Multiple Tumours	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Pyæmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Septic Pericarditis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	9

## TOTAL WEIGHTS OF MEAT AND ORGANS CONDEMNED

TABLE L.

	<i>Tuberculosis</i>				<i>Other Diseases</i>			
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Carcase Meat	1	12	3	23	1	10	—	12
Organs and Viscera	—	4	3	9	4	8	3	23
TOTAL .. .. .	1	17	3	4	5	19	—	7

Total Weight Condemned :— 7 Tons 16 cwts. 3 qrs. 11 lbs.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The number of registered factories and other premises in the Urban District at the end of 1963 was 211. These include (figures for 1962 in brackets) :—

Factories with mechanical power .. .. .	172	(175)
Factories without mechanical power .. .. .	18	(16)
Other registrable works (building operations, etc.) ..	21	(21)

### *Homework*

Half-yearly lists were received from 16 employers and 3 other authorities notifying the employment of 181 outworkers on specified classes of work in the Urban District (August list). Particulars relating to 108 outworkers were also notified to 12 other local authorities.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION

Forty-one visits were made in connection with cases of notifiable infectious disease :—

Houses or parts of houses disinfected :—

(a) following infectious disease .. .. .	6
(b) on special request (other causes) .. .. .	—
No. of articles of bedding, etc., disinfected .. .. .	26
No. of articles destroyed .. .. .	25

## VERMINOUS DISINFESTATION

One hundred and eleven cases of infestation were notified and dealt with during the year :—

Ants .. .. .	10	Fleas .. .. .	4
Beetles .. .. .	1	Silver Fish .. .. .	2
Cockroaches .. .. .	3	Wasps .. .. .	90
Earwigs .. .. .	1		

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act regulates the conditions under which pet animals are kept pending sale, and provides for the licensing of pet shops and other premises from which they are sold. The conditions of licence adopted by the District Council are those recommended by the R.S.P.C.A. There were five licensed pet shops in the Urban District during 1963. No serious infringements of the licensing conditions were found.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

### *Rodent Control*

164 notifications of rodent infestation were received during the year compared with 113 during 1962. There was also some increase in the number of infestations found, but for the sixth consecutive year no major infestation occurred in any part of the Urban District. The Gipsy Lane refuse tip, sewage farms and other premises particularly liable to infestation received regular attention.

Maintenance treatments and test baiting of the public sewers were carried out, the whole of the sewage system being adequately covered. Altogether 531 baits were laid in 221 manholes (Table M).



The following is a summary of the work carried out in this section :—

1. *Surface Infestations*

(a) Number of notifications received	..	..	164
(b) Properties Inspected :			
(i) As a result of notification	..	..	202
(ii) Routine visit or survey	..	..	55
(iii) Otherwise	..	..	6
		—	263
(c) Infestations found :			
(i) Rats—Major	..	..	—
(ii) Rats—Minor	..	..	129
(iii) Mice only	..	..	43
		—	172
(d) Infested Properties Treated by Local Authority :			
(i) Private Dwellings	..	..	120
(ii) Business and Industrial Premises (including contracts)	..	..	27
(iii) Agricultural Properties	..	..	1
(iv) Local Authority Properties	..	..	15
		—	163
(e) Total treatments including re-treatments	..		186
(f) Total visits made by Rodent Operatives	..	..	903

*Annual Servicing Agreements*

Number in force (31st December, 1963)	..	9
Total Value	..	£88

2. *Sewer Treatments*

Total number of manholes in sewerage system — 650.

TABLE M.

<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Number of Manholes Baited</i>	<i>Number of Manholes showing Bait Take</i>
<i>Full Treatment</i>		
Wellingborough (i)	76	17 (22%)
„ (ii)	80	27 (34%)
<i>Test Baiting (10%)</i>		
Wellingborough	49	16 (33%)
Finedon	12	4 (33%)

*Other Local Authorities*

Forty-seven visits were made by the rodent operatives to Raunds and Irthlingborough U.D.C.'s under standing arrangements.







